[ARCHIVED] March 25, 2020 City of Fremont Update in Response to COVID-19



The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an evolving, unprecedented public health crisis that has necessitated several emergency measures to keep the Fremont community safe and help slow the spread of the disease. In accordance with the Alameda County Health Officer's Order issued on March 16, 2020 and the City's emergency proclamation, changes to City of Fremont operations include the cancellation of all City events and non-essential meetings, the closure of most City facilities through April 7, 2020, and the modification or suspension to most non-essential City services.

Today's update highlights essential activities and construction in Fremont under the current Shelter in Place Order issued by the Alameda County Health Officer; Census 2020; and our City Newsletter being mailed to Fremont households this week.

Essential Activities under Shelter in Place Orders

What's considered an essential activity under the State of California "Stay at Home" order and the Alameda County Health Officer's "Shelter in Place" order?

The <u>Shelter in Place Order issued by the Alameda County Health Officer</u> allows community members to leave their home to get food, care for a relative or friend, get necessary health care, or go to an essential job. Exercising is allowed but should be in one's own neighborhood.

Beyond your neighborhood, outdoor recreation activities such as hiking and visiting State Parks is currently allowed and only permitted with people you live with. Congregating with friends, neighbors, and organized group activities are strictly prohibited.

The most important thing to keep in mind is avoid crowded trails and parking lots. To help reduce crowds, State Parks is modifying operations at some parks, including closing vehicular access and parking lots to reduce the density of visitors. View the list of closures. Help flatten the COVID-19 curve at State Parks by maintaining a social distance of 6 feet or more when recreating in the outdoors. For information on National Parks, visit their website. View the State of California "Stay at Home Order" frequently asked questions about outdoor recreation.

Attention to Pets

Community members can walk their dog and take a pet to a veterinarian or pet hospital if their pet is sick. Remember to distance yourself at least 6 feet from other pets and owners.

Construction in Fremont

Construction of essential infrastructure is allowed under the Shelter in Place Order issued by the Alameda County Health Officer as long as social distancing requirements are followed. This includes public works projects and all housing construction. The City is currently providing limited building inspection services for public works projects and affordable housing developments. The City is evaluating the capacity to expand inspection services for additional projects and will provide updates to the community when available. Prior to the City resuming inspections on any of these projects, the contractor will provide the inspector with a description of the contractor's plan for complying with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with respect to preventing transmission of COVID-19.

If you see construction taking place in Fremont that you think is unauthorized, please contact Code Enforcement at 510-494-4430 or by email. Please include the street address, a description of what you observe, and the best way for the City to contact you if additional information is needed.

Census 2020

Census 2020 season has begun! The City of Fremont wants to make you aware that despite the Shelter in Place Order issued by the Alameda County Health Officer, Census 2020 completion is still possible since you can complete the form from the safety of your home. As of March 23, 2020, the City of Fremont has a 29% Census response rate, and it is important to increase this number to ensure adequate funding for essential programs such as education, health care, and infrastructure improvements. The Census also determines the number of political representatives advocating for our community.

From March 12 through March 20, all households should have received an invitation to complete the Census. Residents may respond online or over the phone at 844-330-2020. The Census form asks nine questions about people living in your household and on average takes 10-12 minutes for completion. Residents should make sure to count everyone living their address. The Census does not ask for citizenship status, social security number, or any other financial information. All Census responses are confidential and protected by law.

The Census is available in 13 different languages. Language guides are available in 59 different languages if further assistance is needed. If you require assistance or have questions, please send an email.

Important Census 2020 Resources

- o Completing the Census Form Online
- o Completing the Census Form by Phone: 844-330-2020
- o Multi-lingual numbers are available
- o <u>Census Form Language Guides in 59 languages</u>

- o Census Form Video Guides in 59 languages
- o County of Alameda Census
- o <u>Census Bureau Website</u>
- City of Fremont Census webpage

City Newsletter (Spring Issue) Delivered to Fremont Households this Week

This week Fremont households will receive a copy of the City Newsletter delivered to their mailboxes. Due to rapid developments that have stemmed from COVID-19 since the newsletter went to print earlier this month, some information included in the newsletter, such as changes/cancelations of community events/meetings and City projects/programs are not reflected in this issue. The Compost Giveaway event, scheduled for Sunday, April 5 is postponed, and the Fremont Earth Day Fair, scheduled for Saturday, April 18, is now canceled. Other events may also be canceled to prevent the spread of this disease, so we encourage you to check webpages listed for additional updates. City News is also posted online.

Stay Informed

For more information on essential services and updates on how the City of Fremont is monitoring the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), visit our <u>Coronavirus webpage</u>. General updates will be made to the City's social media accounts on Facebook, Nextdoor, Nixle, and Twitter; <u>follow our channels</u>.